

TESTIMONY BY CONNIE WILLIAMS, FEDSOURCE, APRIL, 2003

I hosted a FedSource booth at the Colorado National Guard Association Annual Conference on April 25 and 26. I have learned that the National Guard Associations vary in size among the states, with Colorado being one of the smaller Associations. With the international situation, I was actually surprised they did not cancel their 2003 conference. There were only 6 vendors in attendance, with FedSource being one of the 6. When the final attendance tally was available, the conference organizers were thrilled that 160 conference attendees were there. Only 120 had been expected to attend. FedSource has been providing services to both the Air and Army National Guard units at Buckley AFB for 3 or 4 years. Soon after the exhibit area opened at the conference, Major Erica Druke, who has been Fedsource's NG coordinator, personally extended a very warm welcome and thank you for being there. She shared that one-third of the National Guard at Buckley had been deployed for the war effort and that they could not have accomplished normal tasks if they had not had the FedSource support.

Though the group was small, a number of other National Guard members, including the Colorado Adjutant General, visited our booth with heartfelt thanks for our attendance. It gave me a proud, warm feeling to have been part of their conference and know that we had helped out in some small way.